THE URBANA MANUSCRIPT OF SELECTIONS FROM THE VERGILIAN *APPENDIX*

BY

GRUNDY STEINER
A.B., University of Illinois, 1937
A.M., University of Illinois, 1938

AN ABSTRACT OF A THESIS

SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN CLASSICS
IN THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF THE UNIVERSITY
OF ILLINOIS, 1940

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PREFACE

In the *Sitzungsberichte* of the Bavarian Academy for the year 1908 (Heft 11), Friederich Vollmer outlined the principal manuscript traditions of the poems in the Vergilian *Appendix*. His classification of the older codices forms the starting point for the study which follows, since even the Ausonian poems in the Urbana manuscript are established elements in this so-called Vergilian tradition.

Many of the later manuscripts have remained unclassified, however, for Ribbeck alone (in his *Prolegomena* to the *Appendix*, Leipzig, 1868) had made any considerable attempt to define their relationships. But that effort must be regarded as only partly successful, for the readings which he adopted in his 1895 edition of the poems indicate that he had by that time withdrawn somewhat from several of his earlier positions.

When I set out, therefore, to determine the family relationships of the Urbana manuscript of selections from the *Appendix*, I found myself compelled to construct the stemma which appears on page 7. This stemma is tentative, for readings from most of the manuscripts could be assembled but indirectly, *i.e.* through editions and articles in journals, rather than from the manuscripts themselves or even rotographs of them, and interpolations may occasionally have obscured the family connections, but the general outlines ought to be approximately correct.

This study was taken up at the suggestion of Dr. W. A. Oldfather, for whose comments and suggestions I am duly grateful. I wish also to thank members of the staffs of the libraries at the University of Illinois and at the University of Chicago for their generous assistance.

INTRODUCTION

The Pseudo-Vergilian poems, which are considered here, appear on folios 162v-166v of the Urbana manuscript, a bound volume composed of 230 leaves of vellum. They are in a Gothic bookhand of about the middle of the fourteenth century. Other works in the volume include the *Distichs* of Cato, the *Eclogues* of Theodulus, the *Fables* of Avianus, the *Elegies* of Maximianus, the *Satires*, *Ars Poetica*, and *Epistles* of Horace, and the *Satires* of Persius, as well as works in verse by several Mediaeval writers.

The sigla *FSLWBEAT* stand for the same codices as in Vollmer's edition of the *Appendix* (Leipzig, 1909). U is the symbol for the Urbana manuscript; O represents the hypothesized archetype of the bulk of the later codices among which U belongs, while the other sigla will be given as the manuscripts are discussed below. (Further descriptions of these manuscripts will be found in Vollmer, *op. cit.* p. 37 *sq.*)

Two subjects are to be considered: 1) the manuscript groups, and 2) the value of U and previously unexamined portions of certain other manuscripts.

I. MANUSCRIPT GROUPS

The method employed to construct the *stemma codicum* while determining the affinities of U, was to collect the readings of all possible codices, and then to separate these manuscripts into groups by means of unusual variations which distinguish them. U was examined directly, while XCKN were collated from rotographs.

The evidence assembled indicates the following connections (which are illustrated in the stemma, p. 7):

U, because of the order of the five poems in it, *Copa*, *Est et Non*, *Vir Bonus*, *De Rosis Nascentibus*, and *Moretum*, belongs in the tradition of S(F)L.

At least two additional copies of the parent of U (U′) are extant:

Siglum	*Place*	*Library Number*	*Date*
Q	Paris	Bibl. nat. lat. 8074	14 c.
X	Oxford	Bodl. Digb. 100	14 c.

U′ is the last in succession of manuscripts originating in O. None of these is extant, but the descendants of them are to be found in a group belonging to the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries:

Siglum	*Place*	*Library Number*	*Date*
Vat.	Rome	Vat. lat. 2759	13 c.
N	Rome	Vat. lat. 1574	13 c.
Bon.	Bologna	Bibl. uni. 2221	14 c.
K	Paris	Bibl. nat. lat. 8207	13-4 c.
C	London	Br. mus. Harl. 2534	13 c.

They are listed in the order in which their forebears are descended from O in the stemma, Vat. deriving from O, N from N′, and so forth.

U′ is copied from the parent of C (C′), while a third manuscript (Tel′) is another *apographon* of C′. From Tel′ are derived three codices:

Siglum	*Place*	*Library Number*	*Date*
Tel.	Paris	Bibl. nat. lat, 7936	13-4 c.
Gaib.	Pommersfelden	Bibl. duc. de Schoenborn 2905	14 c.
Col.	Paris	Bibl. nat. lat, 3762	14 c.

Bon. gets some readings from this source, and so does J′, a manuscript postulated by Housman (*Transactions of the Cambridge Philological Society*, 6 [1908] 1 *sq.*) as an intermediate between Vat. and J.

Two copies seem to have been made of J′, and from each of these are derived several fifteenth and sixteenth century manuscripts. The six chief descendants of the first are:

Siglum	*Place*	*Library Number*	*Date*
J	Leyden	Bibl. uni. Voss. lat. 81	15 c.
I	Leyden	Bibl. uni. Voss. lat. 96	15 c.
Liv.	Livorno	Bibl. comm. 112, 3, 24	15 c.
Reg.-3	Paris	Bibl. nat. lat, 8224	1463
Reg.-4	Paris	Bibl. nat. lat. 8264	1478
Urb.	Rome	Vat. urb. 350	15 c.

The five principal offshoots of the second exemplar are:

Siglum	*Place*	*Library Number*	*Date*
H	Wolfenbuettel	Bibl. duc. Helms. 332	15 c.
Z	Leyden	Bibl. uni. Voss. lat. 849	15 c.
Gud.	Wolfenbuettel	Bibl. duc. Gude 342	15 c.
Dres.	Dresden	Bibl. publ. Dc 140	15 c.
Cat.	Catania	Bibl. S. Nicolai 37	15 c.

The text of H is not consistent, since its readings for the *Copa* and *Vir Bonus* tend to separate it from this group, because in those poems it has drawn upon some older and much superior source. The traditions of these later manuscripts frequently intersect, but perhaps much of the apparent blending of lines of descent can be explained as the result of conjecture. The readings of Tel. seem to be scattered without consistency among the descendants of J′, as if they had been alternative readings in that manuscript, and the scribes had selected whatever ones they wished.

II. VALUE OF U AND OF PARTS OF XCKN

The text of U has never been collated before, nor have complete collations ever been published of some portions of XCKN

which were available to me in rotographic reproductions. These portions included *Est et Non* from KN, *Vir Bonus* from N, and *De Rosis Nascentibus* from XCN.

Examination of the readings from U and the others leads to these conclusions:

The Urbana manuscript is of no great value for arriving at the text of the five Pseudo-Vergilian poems which it contains. Several of its readings are excellent, where the manuscripts in general diverge, but these readings have appeared already in previously known sources, so that the evidence of U is merely confirmatory; in fact, there is almost nothing new which is also useful, to be found in it. The large group of thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth century manuscripts to which it belongs is descended from what is admittedly the poorest branch of the older tradition of the poems, although from the best arm of that poorest branch, since W and O′ were both interpolated with readings from older and superior manuscripts.

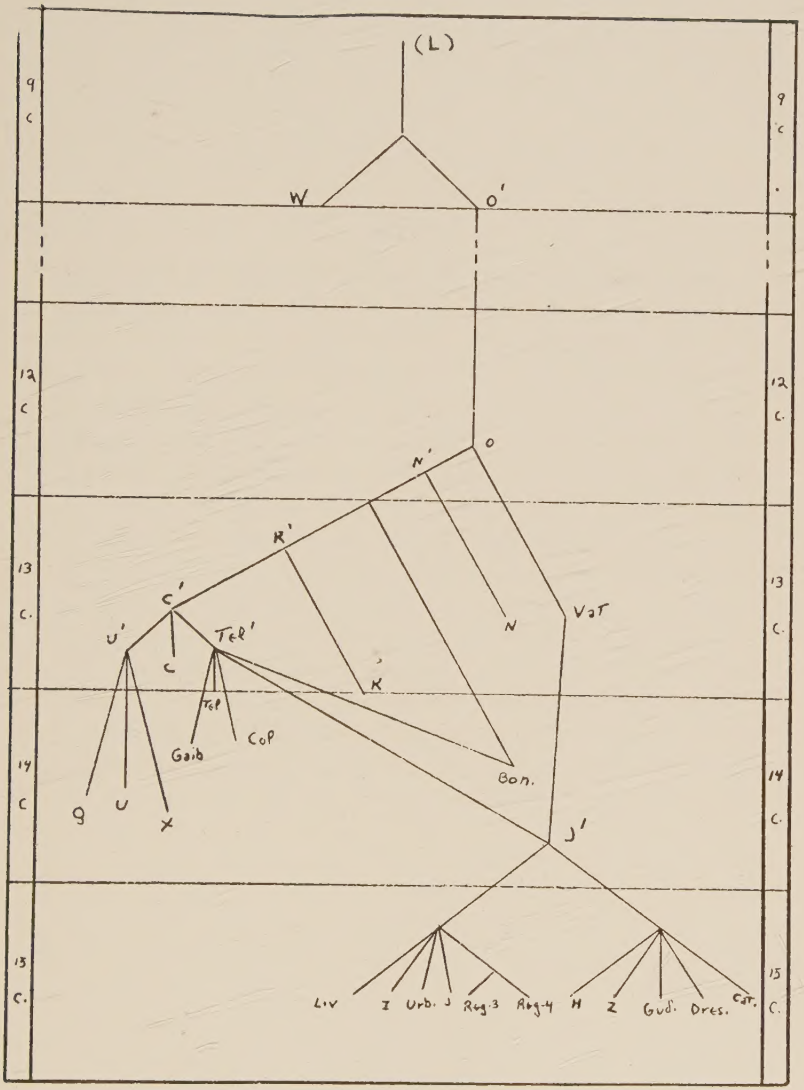
The hitherto unexamined portions of XCKN likewise prove to contain nothing new that may be used in establishing the true texts of the poems—even of the *De Rosis Nascentibus,* for which the manuscript evidence is the most limited.

GENERAL CONCLUSION

U and the great majority of the copies of *Copa, Est et Non, Vir Bonus, De Rosis Nascentibus,* and *Moretum,* made after the twelfth century, are not from the good manuscripts of the individual poems, but are offshoots of one of the inferior codices. A few derive from other L manuscripts, but all these are negligible in number when compared with the many descendants of O′.

Manuscripts like these should always be examined, for they may contain readings from some old codex which has now been lost; but, of course, texts should not be based upon them, and only a selection from their readings need appear in any except a complete *apparatus criticus.*

THE STEMMA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13 C.
14 C
15 C.

VITA

Grundy Steiner was born March 20, 1916, at Plainfield, Illinois. He attended the public schools there, graduating from the Plainfield Community Consolidated High School in June, 1934. During September of the same year he matriculated at the University of Illinois, from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts with high tutorial honors in Classics in June, 1937. Since September of 1937 he has pursued his studies in the Graduate School of the University of Illinois. He was appointed to a graduate scholarship for the academic year 1937-8, at the end of which he was granted the degree of Master of Arts in Classics, and to graduate fellowships for the years 1938-9 and 1939-40. He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, and other honorary organizations. His graduate work has been done under Professors W. A. Oldfather, H. V. Canter, and B. E. Perry in Classics, and under Professors H. G. Paul and H. F. Fletcher in English.